CHURCH OF CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSETSHIRE.

Curry Rivel, an extensive hamlet, of which our engraving represents the church, is situate two miles west from Langport, and eleven east from Taunton, Somerset. We are unable to ascertain the date of the erection, but the site is among the earliest on record occupied by an ecclesiastical building. Doomsday Book, the notable record of the Norman survey of England, has this entry respecting *Churi*, or Curry—"The king holds Churi. King Edward the Confessor held it. It never paid tax, nor is it known how many hides (of land) are there. In demesne are three carucates, five servants, and twenty villanes, and two cottagers. In the church of Churi is half a hide. A priest has one carucate. Eddida, the monk, holds in free alms of the king twelve acres of land, eighty acres of wood and pasture. It is worth five shillings." The demesne appears to have continued in the crown until the reign of Richard 1st, when it was granted, together with Langport to Richard Rivel, a person of great note, sheriff for several successive years of the counties of Devon and Cornwall, and from the tenure of this individual derived its present name of Curry Rivel.

The church stands on an eminence, and is a fine structure, composed of a nave, chancel, and two side aisles, covered with slate, with a large embattled tower at the west end, containing the belfry. Under the battlement, on the south side, is a statue of the patron (St. Andrew), to whom the church is dedicated. The roof is twenty-eight feet high, but plain; that of the chancel twenty-six feet, wrought in square compartments between the arches. The roof is supported by light and elegantly-clustered columns. The pulpit is a comparatively modern appendage, richly carved in mahogany, with gilding. The oldest visible inscription on a tomb within the church is 1593; but there are others, upon which time has done its work of obliteration, of a much more remote period: under the north wall, at the end of the aisle, are five gothic niches, containing effigies in stone of the ancient families of Trevelyan and Jennings, so much mutilated and decayed, as to preclude an inspection of dates. In 1292, 20th Edward 1st, the living was valued at thirty marks: 26th of Henry 8th, at £13. 16s.

The locality of Curry Rivel is remarkable for rural beauty. Within a cove open to the flat land of Sedgmoor, but situate on the top of a ridge of considerable altitude, stands the noble seat of Burton Pinsent, with its fine slopes and richly-wooing woods; commanding prospects extending northward over all the flat country, between Mendip and the Oarstock hills, the Channel and Welsh mountains. From this point more than thirty churches are in view. On the north-east point of the ridge, at a distance of about two furlongs from the house, stands a conspicuous object; on a fine green projecting knoll, with a steep declivity descending to the flat below, is a column of white stone one hundred and forty feet in height, erected to the memory of Sir William Pynsent, a former possessor of the estate.

SMALL STREET HOUSES.—NO. IV.

Figs. 1, 2, and 3 are plans of a house of this class, in accordance with one passage in my first letter, *viz.* to let off three rooms without having the annoyance of lodgers, and by these means helping to pay the cost of the erection through the building societies; I have taken 4 squares on the ground-plan for the reasons given in letter No. 3.

The first feature to be noticed in this plan is the two entrances, and having one staircase over the other, so that the person occupying the apartments A, would have the staircase leading from the basement, on which story there is a parlour in front 12ft. 3in. by 10ft. 6in., with two closets, a kitchen 15ft. 3in. by 10ft., with a large closet under the stairs. Entrance into back garden, and a bed-room over same on ground story 12ft. 3in. by 10ft.; in the front area there is a capital coal-cellar and larder. The party using apartments B would have the entrance on the ground story, with passage through the house into back garden, and the staircase leading to the one pair story with a parlour in front 15ft. 3in. by 10ft. 6in., with three closets, a kitchen at back 15ft. 3in. by 10ft., with a larder and closet over the stairs with sink, &c.; and a bed-room in front on ground-story 12ft. 3in. by 10ft. 6in., with two closets, so that B.'s apartments would be quite separated and distinct from the other parts of the house. If it should be thought desirable to have both entrances on the ground-story, it may be easily arranged by making a passage through B.'s bed-room (which it would reduce three feet), and turn the stairs of basement; this alteration would make A.'s parlour three feet larger. The back garden might be divided off by a light iron fence; the two entrances in front give a good outline elevation for decoration, which could be done when building the house, or at any future time. The porches are intended to be partially open on the inner sides and ends next the street as shown, and also at top; they will be found useful in protecting the doors and windows from high winds, keep the house warm in winter and cool and shady in summer, in addition to the quietness and seclusion, preventing the neighbours from having a command of the entrances, and save the trouble of answering the doors to beggars and lucifer sellers (a great nuisance), as from all the front windows the entrance-gates can be seen. By this plan the occupiers will have the *full* enjoyment of a three-roomed house, with all the *respectability* of neighbourhood and ap-

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